At a COMMITTEE for

ACKWORTH SCHOOL,

The 18th of the 8th Month 1778.

THE Meeting for Sufferings obſerving that the payment for the ACKWORTH Eſtate is to be made the 29th of next month, has deſired this Committee to write to the correſpondents in the ſeveral counties and places, and requeſt to be informed what has been done by Friends in the country, relative to the ſubſcription for that purpoſe, and at the ſame time, apprehending it will not be unacceptable to Friends to ſee the progreſs of this buſineſs from the beginning, annex the minute of the Yearly Meeting, 1777; the Report of the Meeting for Sufferings, to the laſt Yearly Meeting, and the concluſions of that Meeting thereupon, together with ſome minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings; by which it will appear how much the very important concern of procuring a ſober religious Education for the Children of Friends not in affluent circumſtances has employed the attention of the Society. The want of a ſuitable eſtabliſhment ſo much impreſſed the minds of Friends, that they were encouraged to purchaſe the Eſtate at ACKWORTH, and to ſubſcribe liberally towards the Inſtitution; which example this Committee hopes will be ſpeedily followed by Friends in eaſy circumſtances in the Country; whom it ſeems proper to inform, that 2000l. will be wanted to furniſh and eſtabliſh this Houſe excluſive of the purchaſe.

As the diſtance may render it difficult and expenſive to Friends in the Southern, Weſtern, and Eaſtern Counties, to ſend their Children to ACKWORTH, it is propoſed,

That Friends in the Counties of Eſſex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Kent, Surry, Suſſex, Hampſhire, or any other part within 40 miles North of London, ſhall ſend their Children to London at their own charge, from whence they ſhall be conveyed to ACKWORTH, and returned to London at the expence of the Houſe, provided they ſtay not leſs than two years in the Houſe.

Children from the Weſt may be ſent to Birmingham inſtead of London.

Children from the Midland and Northern Counties muſt be ſent to and from ACKWORTH at the expence of their Friends.

It is intended, that ſuitable places ſhall be provided in London and Birmingham, where the Children ſhall be properly taken care of, till there is a ſufficient number collected to be ſent to ACKWORTH together, under the care of a Friend; and it is

deſired

deſired that ſuch Friends who may have children to ſend, will give previous intelligence thereof to JOHN CHORLEY, in LONDON, that ſuitable proviſion may be made at ACKWORTH; and he will give proper notice when, and to whoſe care in London and Birmingham, the Children ſhall be ſent. Children from Scotland ſhall be received at Newcaſtle.

In reſpect to thoſe who are to have the *immediate* care of the Houſe and premiſes, it is propoſed that a ſubſtantial tenant be ſought for, ſuitable to take the land; and a judicious friend to ſuperintend the houſe, garden, and purchaſing proviſions.

That a Woman Friend of proper age and qualifications be inquired for, to have the charge of the Family, the proviſions when bought, and to do all the duties of a Houſe-keeper, with a ſalary of *per annum:*

That a Maſter capable of teaching the Boys to read, write, and keep accounts, and and to teach writing and accounting to the Girls, be appointed, with a ſalary of *per annum.*

That a Teacher for the Girls, capable of inſtructing them in reading, needlework, knitting, ſpinning, and houſewifry, be provided, with a ſalary of *per annum:* and as the School increaſes, proper Aſſiſtants will be allowed.

Signed on Behalf of the COMMITTEE,

By JOHN CHORLEY, SECRETARY.

YEARLY-MEETING, 1777.

IT being the judgment of this Meeting, that encouragement for Boarding Schools ſuitable for the Education of Children, whoſe parents are not in affluence, will be advantageous; the conſideration of a plan proper for this purpoſe is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, to be laid before this Meeting next year; to which Friends in the country are alſo deſired to join their attention and aſſiſtance.

At

At a Meeting for SUFFERINGS the 5th of the 6th Month, 1778.

THE COMMITTEE appointed on the affair of BOARDING SCHOOLS, brought in the following report, which was read, and is to go with the other MINUTES to the YEARLY-MEETING, viz.

MET purſuant to adjournment the 1ſt of the 6th month, 1778.

PRESENT. Timothy Bevan, Thomas Corbyn, Jacob Hagen, John Eliot, John Wright, John Hill, John Townſend, Joſeph Row, David Barclay, Daniel Mildred, Robert Howard, Joſeph Hooper, Obed Cooke, Henry Sterry, Thomas Horne, William Forſter, Owen Weſton, and John Fothergill.

WE the Committee appointed to conſider of ſome propoſal for the Education of Children whoſe parents are not in affluent circumſtances, purſuant to the directions of the laſt Yearly-Meeting, have met many times, and employed much ſerious attention on this ſubject. Some aſſiſtance we have received from a Friend or two in the country, and wiſh that many more had been actuated by a like deſire to promote this important concern. The Committee well knowing, from paſt experience, that great difficulties would ariſe in the execution of any propoſal likely to be attended with expence, and being ſatisfied that nothing could be done effectually without it, entered upon the conſideration of this buſineſs under great diſcouragements. They had recourſe to the Minutes of the Yearly-Meeting, and the Meeting for Sufferings, in reſpect to the Education of Friends Children, and found that this ſubject had been taken up in the Yearly-Meeting 1758; farther conſidered in 1759; and a propoſal for the encouragement of ſchool-maſters agreed to, and recommended to the ſeveral counties and places, in the Yearly-Meeting 1760.

It would ſeem, that from want of proper zeal to promote this important concern, the directions of the Yearly-Meeting were not properly attended to by the counties in general: a few endeavoured to act agreeable to the plan they had received.

In our laſt Yearly-Meeting, the ſubject of Education was again revived, and the ſituation of ſuch Friends who were not of ability, however willing, to provide a ſuitable Education for their Children, was more particularly taken into conſideration; and the Yearly-Meeting with much ſympathy and regard, felt the neceſſity of endeavouring to provide for their relief; and the matter was referred to the Meeting for Sufferings, as well as to Friends in general, in order to conſider of ſome practicable method of effecting this very neceſſary purpoſe.

Whilſt the minds of Friends of the Meeting for Sufferings were under much ſolicitude in regard to this matter, the following object was preſented to their conſideration. Not long after the Hoſpital for Foundlings was eſtabliſhed in London, the Governors of it thought proper to direct others to be built in the country, as appendages to that in London, for the reception of Children of both ſexes.—They made choice of ACKWORTH, a village

village near Pontefract in Yorkſhire, for one of theſe houſes; and erected a ſtrong convenient ſtone building, capable of accommodating a very numerous family.

The ſituation is healthy, in a cheap plentiful country, and in the neighbourhood of many Friends. The building has been erected about eighteen years; was occupied about twelve years, and from that time has ſtood empty, though preſerved from decay. This houſe, which together with about 84 acres of land coſt about ſeventeen thouſand pounds, was offered to ſale for ſeven thouſand. The circumſtance being made known to ſome Friends, they were of opinion that ſuch a building, with ſuch conveniences, and in ſuch a ſituation, might poſſibly contribute to the purpoſes intended by the Yearly-Meeting.

The propoſal of purchaſing this houſe and the eſtate belonging to it, being laid before you, and deliberately conſidered, it became your opinion likewiſe, that it ſhould be purchaſed; and an agreement was directed to be made for the ſame with the Governors of the Foundling-Hoſpital.

The purchaſe was accordingly made for the ſum, of £7000 in order that the matter might be laid before the Yearly-Meeting.

Your Committee have not been able to frame any propoſal for the Education of ſuch Children as are the objects of the Yearly-Meeting's care, ſo likely to be carried into execution, and to be attended with ſo beneficial effects as might be obtained, were theſe premiſes to become the property of Friends, who thereby would be in poſſeſſion of a place capable of admitting a large number of Children, and might afford an opportunity of forming a practicable plan for the Education of ſuch Children whoſe parents are not in affluent circumſtances, agreeable to the direction of the laſt Yearly-Meeting.

YEARLY-MEETING, 1778.

THE Minute of the laſt Yearly-Meeting, relating to the encouragement of Boarding-Schools, ſuitable for the Education of Children whoſe parents are not in affluence, being read, John Fothergill brought in a report from the Meeting for Sufferings, which was read, and is referred to the conſideration of the following Friends, who are deſired to report their ſentiments, and make ſuch further propoſals relative thereto as they may judge expedient, at ſome future ſitting of this Meeting, viz.

William Brown, Thomas Weſt, Joſeph Fry, Robert Eeles, William Wright, Joſeph Mulliner, John Sutton, John Gregory, Thomas Thompſon, John Stevenſon of Durham, John Brightwen, Henry Wilkins, Edmund Portſmouth, Thomas Pritchard, Iſaac Sharples, George Sims, Elijah Salthouſe, James Hubbard, Joſeph Burtt, William Bleckly, Thomas Bland, Daniel Cowper, Michael Cobham, William Barnes, Thomas Gilkes, Edmund Rack, Richard Brewſter, Jeremiah Waring, Thomas Cruttenden, Charles Lloyd, George Bewley, William Gundry, George Becket, Richard Reynolds, Daniel

Daniel David, John Huſtler, William Tuke, together with the Committee of the Meeting for Sufferings, and the following Friends, viz. Joſeph Inman, Joſeph Garratt, John Gurney, Joſeph Docwra, Thomas Rutter, William Rathbone, John Routh, James Backhouſe, Joſeph England, Iſaac Wilſon, Joſeph Beeſley, John Ranſome, Thomas Finch, John Latimer Morton, Thomas Collinſon, or any twenty of them, with any other Friends who are free, to meet at the cloſe of this Meeting.

WILLIAM TUKE from the Committee appointed to conſider the affair of Boarding Schools, for the Education of Friends children whoſe parents are not in affluent circumſtances, brought in a report, which being ſeveral times read, is agreed to by this Meeting, and is as followeth.

At a Committee appointed to conſider the report of the Meeting for Sufferings reſpecting Boarding Schools, of the 10th of the 6th month, 1778; preſent upwards of ſixty Friends.

It is the opinion of this Committee, that the Houſe and Eſtate at ACKWORTH, in the county of York, contracted for by conſent of the Meeting for Sufferings, ſhould be purchaſed for the uſe of the Society: that a liberal ſubſcription be immediately ſet on foot, during the ſitting of this Meeting, for making this purchaſe; and that the Meeting for Sufferings be empowered to borrow on intereſt, on the loweſt terms, ſuch ſums of money as may be further neceſſary to complete the agreement and eſtabliſh the intended inſtitution at ACKWORTH, and the intereſt to be paid out of the profits of the eſtate.

Minute of the YEARLY-MEETING held in LONDON, the 13th of the Sixth Month 1778.

This Meeting having deliberately conſidered the report of their Committee to whom the Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings, reſpecting the Education of Children of Friends not in affluent circumſtances, purſuant to the directions of the laſt Yearly-Meeting, were referred, agree thereto; and direct, that the Building and Eſtate at ACKWORTH, near PONTEFRACT in YORKSHIRE, the property of the Foundling-Hoſpital in LONDON,

LONDON, and contracted for at the price of £7000. be purchaſed for the uſe of the Society; and that the following methods for raiſing the ſums neceſſary for completing the purchaſe, furniſhing the Houſe, and eſtabliſhing a School for the Education of ſuch Children, be recommended to the ſeveral counties and places.

I. By DONATIONS.

Many Friends in eaſy circumſtances have already contributed largely in this manner (in ſums from £300 to £10 each) and it is recommended to others in like ſituations, to follow their example.

II. By ANNUITIES.

1. Any member of the Society ſubſcribing a ſum not leſs than £50, ſhall receive Intereſt for the ſame at the rate of £5 ℔ centum ℔ annum, during his or her Natural Life, at the expiration of which the principal ſhall become the property of the Inſtitution.

2. Such ſubſcriber may appoint a nominee jointly with him or herſelf, and receive Intereſt during their joint lives and the life of the Survivor: the Annuities to be ſecured on the Land at ACKWORTH, and paid annually at a Banker's in LONDON, either to the Annuitant, or to his or her order.

It is probable that many Friends will be deſirous of promoting this eſtabliſhment, who may not be inclined to diminiſh their income by donations during their life-time: they may by this method ſecure to themſelves, and to a Survivor, the full intereſt of their ſubſcription.

III. By Iſſuing BILLS of ADMITTANCE by SUBSCRIPTION.

Any county, place, or perſon, deſirous of procuring admiſſion for a Child into this Houſe, may, on the payment of Eight Guineas, to ſuch perſons as may be nominated by the ſeveral counties and places for that purpoſe, receive a Bill of Admittance for one year's Education, maintenance, and cloathing.

Thoſe Friends who incline to contribute to this eſtabliſhment, either by Donations, Annuities, or ſubſcriptions for Bills of Admiſſion, are deſired to tranſmit to their correſpondents in the Meeting for Sufferings, their ſeveral Subſcriptions, on or before the 21ſt of the 9th month next, ſoon after which the money is to be paid, and the deeds of conveyance executed.

It is agreed that the Houſe be opened on the 25th of the third month, 1779, for the reception of Children of both ſexes, under the title of

ACKWORTH

ACKWORTH SCHOOL.

In which it is propoſed, that the principles we profeſs be diligently inculcated, and due care taken to preſerve the Children from bad habits and immoral conduct.

That the Engliſh Language, Writing, and Arithmetick, be carefully taught to both ſexes.

That the girls be alſo inſtructed in Houſewifry and uſeful Needlework.

That this Inſtitution be, for the preſent, under the direction of the Meeting for Sufferings, who are impowered to receive Donations, grant Annuities, iſſue Bills of Admittance, and to frame ſuch regulations for eſtabliſhing the ſame as may to that Meeting appear neceſſary, ſubject to the reviſion and alteration of the next and ſucceeding Yearly-Meetings.

The Meeting for Sufferings are deſired to correſpond with, and receive the aſſiſtance of, ſuch Friends as may be inclined to promote the deſign of this Inſtitution.

At a MEETING for SUFFERINGS, the 3d of 7th Month 1778.

The following Friends are appointed a Committee to take the direction of a School at Ackworth, near Pontefract in Yorkſhire, agreeable to the Minute of the Yearly-Meeting, *viz.* Timothy Bevan, Thomas Corbyn, John Elliot, Abraham Gray, Jacob Hagen, Robert Howard, Jacob Agar, James Healy, John Maſterman, Jeremiah Waring, John Wright, Joſeph Talwyn, John Fothergill, Gilbert Thompſon, David Barclay, Mark Beaufoy, Morris Birkbeck, Richard Cheſter, John Chorley, Samuel Darby, Berry Marſhman, Daniel Mildred, Henry Sterry, George Wheeler, or any ſeven of them.

And the ten following Friends are appointed Truſtees for the Eſtate, *viz.* David Barclay, Mark Beaufoy, Morris Birkbeck, Richard Cheſter, John Chorley, Samuel Darby, Berry Marſhman, DanielMildred, Henry Sterry, and George Wheeler.

At a MEETING for SUFFERINGS, the 21ſt of 8th Month 1778.

The Committee for Ackworth School brought in a digeſt of Minutes and Explanations on that buſineſs, to be communicated to Friends in the Country; alſo a form of the Bill of Admiſſion; to the whole of which, with ſome alterations, this Meeting agrees, and directs a convenient number of copies to be immediately printed and ſent to the ſeveral correſpondents. It is alſo agreed to have a copper-plate for the Bills of Admiſſion; and the ſeveral counties and places are deſired to appoint one or more ſuitable perſons to iſſue ſaid bills, ſend children in, and to act as Agents to the School, whoſe names ſhould be tranſmitted to the Committee in London, as ſoon as it can conveniently be done.

Form of the BILLS of ADMISSION.

N°1. ACKWORTH SCHOOL.

THE Sum of Eight Guineas having been paid to this Inſtitution, a CHILD not leſs than SEVEN, nor more than THIRTEEN Years of Age, being a Member of the Society called QUAKERS, is intitled to EDUCATION, BOARD and CLOATHING for ONE YEAR.

RECEIVED the Day of the Month, 17

The Sum above-mentioned.

by

N. B. It is a Rule that Children bring with them as under.

Boys	1 Hat	Girls	1 Pair Stays
	2 Coats and Waiſtcoats		2 Gowns
	2 Pair Breeches		2 Petticoats
	2 Shirts		2 Under ditto
	2 Handkerchiefs		2 Shifts
	2 Pair Stockings		2 Handkerchiefs
	2 Pair Shoes		2 Caps
			2 Pair Stockings
			2 Pair Shoes

When the Children are ſent home, the ſame quantity of each Article will be returned with them.

When this BILL of ADMISSION is made uſe of, the Order below muſt be filled up with the date, the Child's name and age, and the name of the Monthly Meeting which being ſigned by the Agent moſt conveniently ſituated, the account will be opened in his name; and to avoid multiplicity of correſpondents, it will be moſt agreeable to receive future payments or directions concerning the ſaid Child through his hands.

7 AP 59

day of Month, 17

Pleaſe to admit a Child aged Years and

Months, a Member of Monthly Meeting.

To the Treaſurer at ACKWORTH SCHOOL
in YORKSHIRE.